

____.B. NO.____

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO WIRELESS ENHANCED 911 FUND

Whereas, since July 2, 2004, wireless subscribers have been assessed \$.66/month surcharge as required by Act 159, SLH 2004

Whereas Act 159, SLH 2004 also created the Fund in which these collected fees are deposited;

Whereas, the Fund reimburses public safety answers points (PSAPs) and wireless carriers for the purposes of ensuring adequate funding for the deployment and sustainment of wireless enhanced 911 services and for expenses of administering the Fund and the board;

Whereas, the Fund is self sustaining and does not require General Funds;

Whereas, during 2009 the Wireless Enhanced 911 Board developed a 5 year strategic plan with input from all of the PSAPs in Hawaii;

Whereas, this plan identified the most critical needs to assure up-to-date technology and operational necessities required to support the ongoing expenses of receiving, delivering and dispatching wireless emergency 9-1-1 calls from the public;

Whereas, many of the components and systems required to support wireless 9-1-1 services currently operating within the PSAPs are antiquated and obsolete and need immediate replacement or ongoing maintenance;

Whereas, 9-1-1 is the initial point of contact by the public when they have an emergency that could result in the loss of life, limb or property;

____.B. NO. _____

Whereas, to ensure that the PSAPs are adequately funded for the needs identified in the strategic plan;

Whereas, the PSAPs are of the utmost importance to assure the citizens and visitors to Hawaii have access to 9-1-1 when needed;

Whereas, without this emergency appropriation, the reimbursements to the PSAPs for some of the costs to sustain wireless enhanced 911 services will not be funded;

Therefore, be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Hawaii a bill relating to an emergency appropriation to the Wireless Enhanced 911 Fund.

1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended for immediate passage
2 in accordance with section 9 of article VII of the Constitution
3 of the State of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. The purpose of this Act is to make an emergency
5 appropriation and increase the spending ceiling of the Wireless
6 Enhanced 911 Fund (the Fund) from \$9,000,000 to \$14,000,000.
7 Act 159, SLH 2004 created the Fund, which is a special fund
8 outside of the state treasury, to provide reimbursement to the
9 public safety answering points (PSAPs) and wireless service
10 providers for the purposes of ensuring adequate funding for the
11 deployment and sustainment of wireless enhanced 911 service and
12 for expenses of administering the fund and the board.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the Wireless
14 Enhanced 911 fund, a sum of \$14,000,000, or so much thereof as
15 may be necessary, for fiscal year 2011-2012 for the purpose of
16 reimbursing PSAPs and wireless providers for technical

____.B. NO. _____

1 improvements and for the operating costs of the Fund. The sum
2 appropriated shall be expended by the Wireless Enhanced 911
3 Board for the purpose of this Act.

4

5

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

7

8

9

INTRODUCED BY: _____

10

BY REQUEST